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CHILE: Politics of ITT expropriation (Page 7)

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NOTES

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CHILE: The submission to congress today of President Allende's bill to expropriate ITT interests has several political implications. By charging the legislature, in which the opposition is the majority, to decide whether ITT should receive compensation and how much, Allende is evading direct responsibility for the decision. The Christian Democrats, the largest opposition bloc, are committed to approve expropriation. They are in a difficult position because of allegations that the company attempted to prod officials of the Frei administration as well as US officials to keep Allende from the presidency. Extremists in the present government resent Allende's cautious treatment of the charges. The refocusing of public attention on ITT could provide them with the opportunity to exploit those allegations.

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